and recommended creation of the following promotional posts:—

1. Senior Pharmacist-cum-Storekeeper.
2. Assistant Store Superintendent.
3. Zonal Store Superintendent.
4. Depot Manager.

The recommendations could not be implemented due to financial constraints.

Reported adulteration in food commodities

1614. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item which appeared in the Indian Express of 19th July, 1984 under the caption "Alarming food adulteration in Delhi;"

(b) whether Government have made an enquiry into the matter; and

(c) what action has been initiated by the Prevention of Food Adulteration Department in such cases during the last six months?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (MISS KUMUDBEN M. JOSHI): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The Department of Prevention of Food Adulteration, Delhi has intensified the implementation of the P.F.A. Act in the Union Territory. During the period from January to 3rd August, 1984, 1024 samples were lifted. Out of these 103 samples were found adulterated. 54 prosecution cases have been launched in the year 1984 upto June, 1984.

Rail connection between Narkatia Ganj Gorakhpur

1615. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bagaha Chittauni Rail bridge was damaged in 1924;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the railway connection between Narkatia Ganj and Gorakhpur junction remains severed till date; and

(c) whether Government have any plans to connect these two junction; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A.B.A. GHANI KHAN CHOUDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Restoration of Chittauni Bagaha MG rail link (28.41 kms.) is an approved project. The 9 kms. section between Bagaha and Valmikinagar Road has already been opened to traffic, as a part of this project.

Railway freight equalisation policy

1616. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the commodities on which the Railway freight equalisation policy is applicable;

(b) the reasons for which the consumer goods of bulk supply have been exempted;

(c) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the relevant section of the report of the interministerial group on freight equalisation that compared to the freight rate on distance

up to the Kms. the freight rate for haulage for 1000 Kms is only one third and beyond 3000 Kms. it is less than one tenth; and

(d) if so, the details of the remedial measures proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A.B.A. GHANI KHAN CHOUDHURY): (a) and (b) Railways do not operate any freight equalisation scheme for any commodity, Railway freight charges are levied according to distance.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. However the statement is not correct, as can be seen from the current freight rates for the basic class 100 which are as under:

Distance in (ms.)	Freight rates per Quintal (Rs.)
40	2·51
1000	16·45
3100	35·41

Setting up of coach-cum-wagon factory in Maharashtra

1617. SHRI HUSEN DALWAI:
SHRI JAGESH DESAI:
DR. MAHABIR PRASAD:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to set up a railway coach-cum-wagon factory to meet domestic demands as well as for making exports;

(b) whether it is fact that the State Government of Maharashtra has offered two sites, viz., Butibori near Nagpur and Pulgaon in Wardha District for this purpose; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Maharashtra Government has offered land free of cost for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHOUDHURY): (a) There is no proposal for setting up a coach-cum-wagon factory. The Planning Commission have only approved the Railway's proposal for setting up a coach production unit primarily to meet the Railways' needs.

(b) State Government of Maharashtra had suggested a site for locating the New Coach Factory near Nagpur in 1979 and another site near Waroha in 1981.

(c) No, Sir.

Allocation of Rice to Maharashtra

1618. SHRI JAGESH DESAI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the monthly quota of rice allotted to Maharashtra during the period from January, 1982 to June, 1984; and

(b) whether Government are aware that a sizable population of South Indians reside in Greater Bombay and as such extra quota of rice is required to meet their demand?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO): (a) A statement indicating the monthly allocations of rice to Maharashtra for the period from January, 1982 to June, 1984 is attached.

(b) The allocations of rice from the Central Pool are only supplemental to the open market availability and these are made on a month to month basis, taking into account the overall availability of stocks in the Central Pool, relative needs of the various States, market availability and other related factors.